the beating of the heart, and all peripheral reflexes are rendered inelicitable.

No physiological theory of inhibition is in the least adequate to explain these familiar phenomena of the subordination of the lower to the higher functions. My own hypothesis—that of neural inhibition by drainage of energy from the less intensely excited to the more intensely excited neural system through neural cross-connexions—is the only one which offers even the faintest prospect of throwing light on the facts of subordination and dominance; and I have to confess that (apart from the fact that few or no neurologists look upon it with favour) the hypothesis, even if tenable for the simpler forms of inhibition (as, for example, the reciprocal inhibitions of the flexor and extensor systems of the spinal level) is, by itself, hopelessly inadequate to the explanation of these more general manifestations of dominance and subordination in which the unity of the whole organism finds its fullest expression.[1]

[1] A large proportion of the biologists who insist on the unity of the organism throw the chief onus of responsibility for maintaining that unity (in the case of all higher organisms) upon the nervous system. And if they are pressed on the question as to how the nervous system does the trick, they make reference to C. S. Sherrington's deservedly famous book *The Integrative Action of the Nervous System.* Now, the title of this book may seem to justify this procedure, but a close acquaintance with its contents shows that Sherrington himself, although by aid of his principle of reciprocal innervation he does throw much light on the co-ordinations of the spinal level, makes no claim to have explained in similar neural terms the harmonious integrated functioning of the cerebral hemispheres. Rather,

he adduces the evidence afforded by experimental observations (some by methods of his own devising, others reported by myself) which seem to show conclusively that in many of the sensory integrations which follow from various multiple sense-stimulations (such as stimulations of corresponding points on the two retinae) there is evidence that the neural events initiated from